





## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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are subject to editing.

## The Mississippi pipeline

Most Mississippi Baptists likely don't realize the number of Christian leaders God produces through us, year in/year out and decade after decade. We should pause occasionally to take note of that fact, first to offer praise to God for his faithfulness to us, and secondly, because it's not an accident.

The "Mississippi pipeline" to Christian service starts early — on the cradle rolls of our churches. Thanks to those preschool workers, it's often a toss up whether a child's first word is "Da-Da," "Momma," or "Jesus." Those youngsters have proceeded over the years to programs like children's choirs, Sunbeams, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Christian summer camps, and a host of others that sharpened their understanding of how to trust in Jesus and evangelize the world with the Good News.

When it comes time to decide on a college, Mississippi Baptists offer them three Christian choices: Mississippi College in Clinton in the center of the state, William Carey University in Hattiesburg in the southern part of the state, and Blue Mountain College in Blue Mountain in the northern part of the state.

When they go to college in Mississippi — whether a Baptist or secular school — they discover a Baptist Student Union (BSU) waiting to accept them. At a crucial intersection in their lives where long-awaited freedom meets great temptation, the BSUs serve as a lighthouse to our "church kids" as well as unsaved students.

What kind of leaders has the Mississippi pipeline produced? Though virtually assured of leaving out many great leaders, a few who can be named are:

- the late Owen Cooper, founder and president of Mississippi Chemical Company in Yazoo City, in its heyday one of the largest corporations in the state. In addition to his manifold missions enterprises, Cooper was one of only two laymen ever elected as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

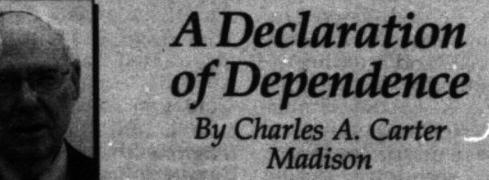
- Clinton/Tupelo native Jerry Rankin, retired long time president of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in Richmond, Va. Rankin and his wife Bobbie are both members of the Hall of Fame at Mississippi College.

- Kosciusko native Morris Chapman, former president of the Southern Baptist

### GUEST OPINION:

#### A Declaration of Dependence

By Charles A. Carter  
Madison



In many ways, our nation has honored God with inscriptions on our coins and on our public buildings, but sadly in recent decades open hostility to God and to every public recognition and manifestation of respect for Him has arisen. Today our nation is in deep trouble. Where do we find hope?

God's Word tells us in 2 Chron. 7:14, If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

God had his prophet to speak this message to the people of Judah. They did not heed and were taken into cap-

Convention and retired long time president of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville. Chapman is also a graduate of Mississippi College.



• Greenville native Bill Causey, a graduate of Mississippi College, long time Mississippi Baptist pastor, former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and retired executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson.

• Jim Futral, a graduate of Clarke College (the disbanded Mississippi Baptist two-year college in Newton) and Blue Mountain College, long time Mississippi Baptist pastor, former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and current executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson.

• Philadelphia native Jimmy Porter, a graduate of Clarke College and Blue Mountain College, longtime Mississippi Baptist pastor, former president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and current executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission in Jackson.

(now LifeWay Christian Resources) in Nashville for many years. He is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest Christian statesmen the Southern Baptist Convention has ever produced.

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The Mississippi pipeline is larger than the few programs detailed here, and many more leaders have come out of the pipeline than just those listed. Many more are in the Mississippi pipeline right now. It's thrilling to know that future leaders are being chosen and raised up right now, but the greatest part is understanding we all have a role to play in the success of the Mississippi pipeline for many more generations to come.

What are you doing in your church to ensure that success? That's where it all starts. You are an important component of the Mississippi pipeline that produces such outstanding leaders.

If you don't believe that, just start praying and watch in amazement as God reveals Himself — and your role in this great Kingdom work — to you.

by his name — Christian people. The promise was not made to governments or rulers of nations. The people of our country must hear and have impressed upon them the seriousness of this message from God's Holy Word.

Those persons who stand in church pulpits throughout our land have the opportunity to proclaim this Word from God to their congregations. Our hope is that God's people will humble themselves and pray and seek God's face and turn from their wicked ways. God will hear and forgive and heal.

The alternative is slavery. God is our only hope for freedom. Opposing Him leads to certain failure. Turning to Him would be a new Declaration of Independence from slavery — and a Declaration of Dependence upon God.

There is hope for America. Let us turn to Him.

Carter is a member of First Church, Jackson, and resides in Madison. He is a retired attorney and served as executive vice president of Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, Ca., from 1983-90.

## 2011 Mississippi Baptist Pastors Conference

*Return to Holiness — Monday, October 31, 2011*

First Baptist Church — Jackson

### Afternoon Session

2:35 p.m. Logos Presentation.....J.B. Hixson

2:50 p.m. Prayer.....John Gordon  
Pastor, Salem Church, Raymond

Message.....David Barton  
Wall Builders

3:50 p.m. Report/Offering.....Arthur Story  
Minister of Ed.  
FBC, Louisville

3:55 p.m. Worship in Song.....One Heart  
FBC, Louisville

4:05 p.m. Message.....Mike Grenn  
Pastor, N. Columbia Church

4:30 p.m. Closing Prayer.....Kevin Jackson  
Pastor of Grace Church, Grenada

### Evening Session

6:15 p.m. Worship in Song.....Testify

6:45 p.m. Welcome/Prayer.....Brett Golson  
Pastor FBC  
Louisville

6:50 p.m. Offering.....Marcus Kelly  
Pastor Salem Church  
Collins

6:55 p.m. Worship in Song.....Testify

7:15 p.m. Prayer.....Brett Golson

Message.....Jake Roudkovski  
Asst. Prof. of Evangelism  
NOBTS



## THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

OCTOBER 27, 2011

VOL. 135  
No. 42

## Last Christian church in Afghanistan razed in 2010

WASHINGTON (BP and local reports) — Not one Christian church building is left standing in Afghanistan, according to the U.S. State Department. The last such public place of Christian worship was destroyed by its landowner in March 2010.

The U.S. State Department's International Religious Freedom Report, which revealed the destruction of the final Afghan church building, said there was a decrease in religious freedom during the reporting period which covered July to December of 2010.

The decline was a result of the Afghanistan government's failure to acknowledge mistreatment of Christians and other religious minorities, according to the September report. The lack of government responsiveness and protection for these groups and individuals contributed to the deterioration of religious freedom and individuals."

Converting to Christianity in Afghanistan sometimes requires risk and sacrifice in other aspects of life besides religion. The report cites that departing from Islam can often mean broken marriages, loss of jobs, and rejection by family, friends, and society.

The decline in religious liberty comes as American forces continue their fight in the Asian country that began after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States. Nearly 1,700 U.S. military members have died there since the invasion, according to CNSNews.com's database of all U.S. casualties in Afghanistan.

U.S. taxpayers have spent \$440 billion in the attempt to improve Afghanistan's new government, which announced over the weekend that it will side with Pakistan over the U.S. if armed conflict breaks out between those two countries.

Deterioration of religious freedom in Afghanistan has a direct correlation to the government's inadequacy in

of worship, there are "very few" such public worship centers, according to the report.

Non-Muslims in Afghanistan

face social discrimination, harassment, and sometimes violence, the report explained.

Christians, Sikhs, and Hindus

have not been protected from these acts of injustice.

"This treatment was not systematic, but the government did nothing to improve conditions during the reporting period," the report said.

"Public opinion continued to be openly hostile toward Afghan converts to Christianity and to proselytizing by Christian organizations and individuals."

Addressing the issue of discrimination against minority religions, the report said. The United States still encourages the majority-Muslim country to allow its people to practice any religion they choose, according to the State Department.

Afghanistan's lack of

Christian churches was first

reported by CNSNews.com.

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)

2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)

3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)

4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for Whittington Hall, the new men's residence at Mississippi College, are held during homecoming activities on Oct. 14.

### Looking back

10 years ago

Leadership expert John C. Maxwell, founder and president of the InJoy Group, Norcross, Ga., brings his national Reality Leadership conference to Ridgcrest Church, Madison, on Oct. 19.

20 years ago

Trustees of Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., vote to include a commitment to biblical inerrancy in the school's new statement of purpose, becoming the first Southern Baptist seminary to adopt an explicit endorsement of inerrancy.

50 years ago

Groundbreaking ceremonies for Whittington Hall, the new men's residence at Mississippi College, are held during homecoming activities on Oct. 14.

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PREACH!

I believe in preaching. I came to know Jesus as my Lord and Savior as the Word of God was preached. I surrendered my life to Him to preach the Gospel as He spoke to me through His Word being proclaimed by a preacher. I have watched with joyful amazement as God has saved souls, reclaimed wayward saints, revitalized the discouraged, and renewed the vision among His people through preaching down through the generations. God's only begotten Son was a preacher, and the living organism of His body — the church — is a preaching institution.

I was strangely reminded of how important preaching is as I heard of the death of Anwar al-Awlaki, the American-born Al Qaeda operative who had become an international leader among terrorist groups. While he was born in our land, grew up in our culture, and educated by our institutions, he was influenced to become what he was and do what he did because of Muslim preachers. Some believe that he had become the most affective communicator of anti-American bitterness and terrorist hatred and had influenced converts around the world by his radical proclamation.

While I disagreed with his theology, detested his attitude, and deplored his ultimate goals, I realized that what he was using to reach out and change minds and stir hearts was a method that God has chosen hundreds of thousands of His servants to do — preach. While I hear some in our preaching ranks demeaning preaching and others discrediting its effectiveness in a world of multimedia and new technologies of presenting the Word, I remain totally convinced and committed to the proclamation of the message of Jesus through preaching. Anwar al-Awlaki was in the main preaching hate while God has called us to preach love. While his message would ultimately destroy others, our message will save them. Preaching makes a difference. It did, it does, and it will make a difference in lives today. Just think about what biblical preaching does.

**Preaching instructs** — Whether it is Jesus preaching to thousands on a hillside or Philip sharing the message of Jesus with the Ethiopian eunuch, it is a constant source of instruction of life and life everlasting. The preaching moment in our churches is not just a lecture on biblical ideas. It is a moment for a person to



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

reflect on where they have been — the trials and the temptations, the tragedies and even the triumphs that have taken place in life. These events are seen in a new light as preaching takes place. Then in ways known only to God Himself, He speaks to us about the unknowns of the days ahead. When you sit in church on Sunday and listen to God's Word being proclaimed, not one person has any idea as to what the next hours, days, or weeks will hold, but God does. His Word can empower you, instruct you, and prepare you for the eventualities that will unfold and the needs you may encounter.

**Preaching ignites** — So often I think about those two disciples who were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They were so discouraged and despondent. Jesus had been crucified. Life had taken a tragic turn and they did not know what to do. They were bewildered and their hearts were heavy. Jesus Himself came to them and walked along the dusty road beside them. He opened the Word of God to them. Out of that experience one of the disciples later said to the other, "My, how our hearts did burn within us as He opened to us the Scripture." No preacher, even the most gifted, sensitive, and insightful among us has any idea of the kinds of burdens, despondency, hurt, or hopelessness that exists in the hearers, but Jesus does. As the Word of God is preached, the Lord reignites our hearts for life and service.

**Preaching instills** — Over the decades of my life I have been so blessed by the preaching that I have heard. Do I recall every sermon and every word? I wish that I did, but I do not. I do have as a part of my life and memory some magnificent encounters with God in those preaching moments where He instilled

in my life a truth from His Word, or gave encouragement at a specific time to be what He wanted and had called me to be. We must never lose sight of the fact that if God is speaking through His messenger, the preached Word is finding lodging places in the hearts of people that we do not even know exist and there God is seeking to do a mighty work.

**Preaching inspects** — The writer of Hebrews tells us that the Word of God is alive, quick, and powerful. It is sharper than any two-edged sword. It comes into our lives and delves into the depths of our thought processes. There are two mighty forces at work when preaching takes place. The living Word of God itself comes to show us God's truth. The other mighty force is the very presence of God and His Spirit makes application of that Word to our own personal needs in dealing with our own defi-

cencies, our fears, and our sins. The Word points us to hope in Christ. I cannot tell you the number of times that I have been preaching in some church and someone comes up to me afterwards upset because they thought that the pastor had told me all about them when, in fact, he had never said a word. I have had people come to me and they were angry because they were convinced that their mate had come to me and told me what they were doing — but until they told me, I had no idea what was going on in their lives. There have been those times in my own experiences where I sat and listened to the preaching of the Word of God and the Lord was making application to my life. I wondered in my own heart how the preacher knew that. He didn't, but God did.

So let me urge and encourage every one of us who has been called by God to preach the Word to remember that while we may be a part of churches filled with great things and experiencing great fellowship, we need to continue to focus on proclaiming a living Lord who will make a difference in everything about us and around us. **Preach!**

The author can be contacted at [jfutral@mbcb.org](mailto:jfutral@mbcb.org).

## BIBLIOCIPHER

By Charles Marx, 1932 - 2004  
© 2005

SIWYWLBYW C NDU  
ZMSB UBZ, PIDS  
SICMHN NBWOWY UW  
GWNCYW, PIWM UW  
EYDU, AWVCWOW SIDS  
UW YWKWCOW SIWX,  
DMG UW NIDVV IDOW  
SIWX.

XDYJ WWWWOM:  
SPWMSU-LBZY

Clue: P = W  
Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: James Two: Five

MISSISSIPPI  
BAPTISTS  
[www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org)

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

# HOUSE TOPS

Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 27, 2011

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

## TRANSITIONS

### Discovering the Generosity Factor

The Stewardship Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is making a tool available for churches to use for a 3-4 week Stewardship Emphasis.

Resources include a CD/DVD with Sunday School lessons and sermons; bulletin inserts for up to three Sundays; giving envelopes; and a poster.

Churches interested in ordering a *Transitions* packet can contact the Stewardship Department at 1.800.748.1651 [toll-free], 601.292.3347, or [leavell@mbcb.org](mailto:leavell@mbcb.org).  
P.O. Box 530 Jackson, MS 39205



### Day for Homeschool Students

Friday, Nov. 4 • 10am-3pm • Lunch included

Adventure Recreation Day is for homeschool students in grades 1-12. Activities will include kiddie, low, and high ropes courses and other outdoor activities.

Cost: \$10 per person / \$30 max per family, due at time of registration

Registration deadline: Oct. 31, 2011

Contact Garaywa, at 601-924-7034, for a registration form.

## The Suit Project

### Merry Christmas

to the pastors in the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania/South Jersey

**What is The Suit Project?**

For over 47 years Mississippi Baptists have enjoyed sending new suits to pastors in new work areas, many of whom have no suit nor the extra money to purchase one. The Suit Project lets these pastors know we care about them and support their work.

**How do I get involved?**

Simply make a donation to the ministry. Each suit costs \$135. This can be a special project for Men's Ministry groups, RAs, GAs, or VMU groups.

**Where do I send my donation?**

Make your check payable to MBCB and designate to: The Suit Project

Mail to:  
Men's Ministry  
Department  
P.O. Box 530  
Jackson, MS  
39205-0530

If funds are available, we will send a clothing gift certificate to the pastors' wives.



## AREA KEYBOARD FESTIVALS – 2012

AREA

LOCATION

| AREA   | LOCATION   | FESTIVAL LEADER  | PHONE              |
|--|--|------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Thursday, January 26, 2012 – 6:30–8:30 p.m.</i> |  |                  |                    |
| Area 2 <sup>1</sup>                                | FBC, 300 Church St., Tupelo, 38804                             | Randy Wood       | C-662-842-1327     |
| Area 2   | FBC, 201 1st Ave., Amory, 38821                                | Ray Burke        | C-662-256-7131     |
| Area 3   | FBC, 431 N. State St., Jackson, 39201                          | Wyndy South      | 0-601-292-3272     |
| Area 4   | Poplar Springs Dr BC, 4032 Poplar Springs Dr., Meridian, 39305 | Michael Gibson   | C-601-485-5106     |
| Area 5   | Carterville BC, 115 Carterville Rd., Petal, 39465              | Kristopher Smith | C-601-584-9457     |
| Area 3   | FBC, 1700 Delaware Ave., McComb, 39648                         | Bruce Pruitt     | C-601-684-2971     |
| Area 5   | FBC, 902 Live Oak Ave., Pascagoula, 39567                      | Jane Wilkinson   | Michaelle Harrison |
| Area 5   | Highland BC, 2513 N 7th Ave., Laurel, 39440                    | Marilyn Huff     | C-601-428-8493     |

*Friday, January 27, 2012 – 6:30–8:30 p.m.*

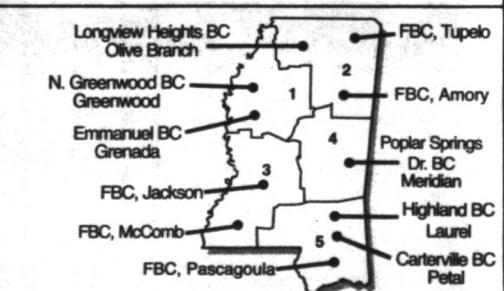
|  |                             |                |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Longview Heights BC, 4501 Goodman Rd., Olive Branch, 38654 | Ada Cates<br>Blake Krumalis | C-662-895-1900 |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|

*Saturday, January 28, 2012 – 9:30–noon*

|   |                   |                |
|---|-------------------|----------------|
| Emmanuel BC, 245 Meadowbrook Rd., Grenada, 38901      | Barry Worrell     | C-662-226-5316 |
| North Greenwood BC, 615 Grand Blvd., Greenwood, 38930 | Patricia Ehrhardt | C-662-453-2801 |

**Note: Area changes effective January 2011**

For more information contact Wyndy South  
Church Music Department  
601-292-3272  
[wsouth@mbcb.org](mailto:wsouth@mbcb.org)



# RADAY 2011

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE • CLINTON • NOVEMBER 5, 2011

Special presentation by  
Terry Vandeventer  
"The Snake Man"

PLUS  
MISSIONARIES  
FOOTBALL GAME  
MUSIC

## Mississippi Baptist Student Missions 2012

# see. hear. go.

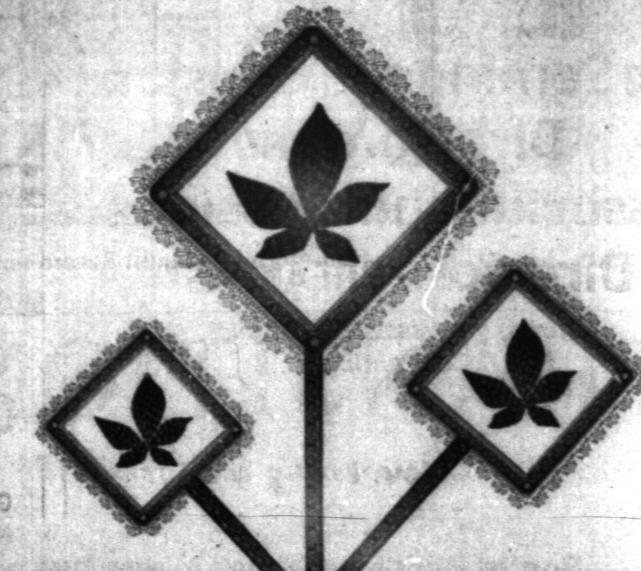


For we cannot hear but speak about what we have seen and heard.  
—Acts 4:20

[www.missionsnow.net](http://www.missionsnow.net)

Opportunities for current Mississippi college students  
from 2 weeks to 4 months.

Contact your local BSU or church college minister for more  
information, or contact the MBCB Collegiate Ministry Department  
at 601.292.3299.



## BIVO/SMALL CHURCH MEETINGS of the Mississippi Baptist Convention

Oct. 31 • Baptist Building • Sky Room, 4th Floor

Area Coordinators Meeting — 1:30 p.m.

Council Meeting — 3 p.m.

Bivo/Small Church Ministers & Wives Banquet — 5 p.m.

You must have reservations for the banquet.

Please contact the Pastor/Leadership Development  
Department to make reservations. 601.292.3305  
or [cwtaylor@mbcb.org](mailto:cwtaylor@mbcb.org).

## Witnessing Through Media Awards Competition

If your church is involved in a radio or video  
production between March 1, 2011, and March  
1, 2012, or if you host a Web site during this  
time, begin now to consider entering the 2012  
Witnessing Through Media Awards Competition.

Outstanding creative work has been submitted  
by our churches in the past, and we hope you  
will begin now to look around at what your  
church is doing through media in helping to  
bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus.

WTM Awards Entry Deadline: March 9, 2012

## SBC Seminary Extension Directors AND Associational Missions Directors BREAKFAST

During the Mississippi Baptist  
Convention

Nov. 1

7-8 a.m.

### Baptist Building Chapel

Please notify Keith Gordon, 601.292.3307 or  
[kgordon@mbcb.org](mailto:kgordon@mbcb.org) if you will attend.  
Wives are also invited to attend.

Randy Williams, SBC Seminary Extension Director, will  
be available to answer any questions about the program  
and/or starting one in your association.



## Coming to town for Convention?

Garaywa is available for lodging for anyone attending the Mississippi  
Baptist Convention — messengers, pastors, and others.

Anyone interested can call Garaywa for more information, at 601.924.7034.

## YOUTH EVANGELISM CHALLENGE

TEAM  
IMPACT



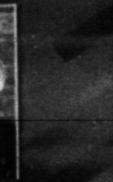
## INTERIM PASTOR TRAINING

Tuesday, November 15, 2011  
9 a.m. — noon

Mississippi Baptist Building Chapel  
Jackson, Mississippi

LED BY:  
Alan Woodward  
Director  
MBCB Pastor/Leadership Development

Bruce Cappleman  
Director  
MBCB Church-Minister Relations



Nelson Bishop  
Witnessing通过媒体

Paul Burford  
Counselor

Mark Roberts  
First Priority

Justin A. Reardon

DECEMBER 29-30, 2011  
MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE • CLINTON, MISS.

REGISTRATION BEGINS  
Thurs., Dec. 29, 1:30 p.m.

CHALLENGE CONCLUDES  
Fri., Dec. 30, 12:30 p.m.

## Pray this day for...

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;"

*Psalm 46:1-2*

Pray for: Aaron\* and Tiffany Epps, IMB missionaries ministering to American Peoples in Brazil through church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: Megan Fraiser\*, IMB missionary ministering to Southeast Asian Peoples in the United States through community outreach and encounter evangelism.

\*These International Mission Board missionaries claim Mississippi as their home state. The IMB missionaries listed in the HouseTops prayer calendar are currently active in 2-4 year terms or in career service.

A Woman's Guide to Joyful Living Rhonda H. Kelley

MINISTERS' WIVES CONFERENCE Monday, October 31, 2011 FBC Chapel, Jackson 1:15 - 4:45 p.m.

State Missions Goal: \$2,000,000

Your contributions to the Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering go to fund ministries like:

- Church Planting
- Cross Cultural Ministries
- College and University Outreach
- Community Mission Projects
- Disaster Relief
- Port Ministry

Please pray about what God would have you discover during Mississippi's state missions emphasis. Also, pray to discover what God wants you to give through the Margaret Lackey Offering.

*Undiscovered*

MARGARET LACEY STATE MISSIONS OFFERING

HOUSE TOPS

Oct. 28 – Nov. 10, 2011

Pray for: A team from FBC, Tupelo, in Southeast Asia, ministering through a workers' retreat Oct. 22-31.

Pray for: Alvin and Mary\* Doyle, IMB missionaries ministering to European Peoples in Hungary as they serve other missionaries through member care.

PRAY FOR THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION and associated events

(1) MS Baptist Christian Educators Fellowship; (2) Pastors' Conference; (3) Ministers' Wives Conference; (4) Bivocational/Small Church Council Meeting & Ministers/Wives Banquet

(1) Seminary Extension Directors' Breakfast; (2) Chaplains' Fall Banquet; (3) Mississippi Baptist Convention, Day 2

Pray for: Robert\* and Margaret Fortenberry, IMB missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples in Botswana through church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: a team from Jackson BA traveling to Uganda to minister through Vacation Bible School, construction and training, Nov. 4-14.

Pray for: a team of five from Good Hope BC, Purvis, traveling to Kenya to minister through pastor training and construction, Nov. 5-13.

Pray for: David\* and Gloria\* Glaze, IMB missionaries ministering to Deaf Peoples in the United States through media consultation and promotion, Nov. 8-15.

Pray for: John\* and Sonia\* Grady, IMB missionaries ministering to American Peoples in Honduras through church planting, church and home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: Clarence Frank and Phoebe\* Harrison, IMB missionaries ministering to American Peoples in the United States through church planting, church and home outreach and evangelism.

## COLLEGE NEWS

1. William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine (WCUOM) announced the 2011-2012 class council for the first year medical students. The class representatives are (front row, left to right) Jennifer Kennard of Meridian, class representative; Greta Gania of Lake Worth, Fla., secretary; Audra Finley of Sheridan, Ark., class liaison; Heather Thompson of Conway, Ark., class representative; (back row, left to right) Jason Eversole of Fort Worth, Texas, class representative; Nicholas Swindle of Katy, Texas, class representative; Daniel Griffin of Brandon, president; Brent Arnold of West Monroe, La., treasurer; Justin Lay of Brandon, vice president; and Tony Nguyen of Orlando, Fla., class representative.



1. WCUOM officers

1. Concord Church, Pelahatchie, will host Ann Downing in concert Oct. 30, 6 p.m. A love offering will be received.

2. Mt. Carmel Church, Smith County, will have high attendance day Oct. 30. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Lord's Supper, 11 a.m.

3. Sandy Hook Church, Sandy Hook, is sponsoring a turkey shoot Nov. 12, 7 p.m., with refreshments; and a fall festival Nov. 13, 12:30 p.m., with chicken plates (\$7), flag football, country store, silent auction, cake auction, cake-walk, and games.

4. Shiloh Church, Big Creek, is holding an adult health fair and festival Nov. 8, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information, call (662) 628-5949.

5. Old Hebron Church, New Hebron, is hosting The Prestwoods in concert Oct. 30, 6 p.m., followed by a fellowship. A love offering will be received.

6. First Church Morton, is hosting a women's conference Nov. 12, 8 a.m. - noon. Light breakfast, music, fun, fellowship, and prizes. Tickets (pre-sale only) \$15, available at (601) 732-8941 or [www.mortonfbc.org](http://www.mortonfbc.org). Maggie Wade, speaker.

7. New Hope Church, Harmontown, is sponsoring a Fall Fest Oct. 28, 6 p.m., with several activities including a bouncy house.

8. Beulah Church, Decatur,

9. First Church, Terry, held

## JUST FOR THE RECORD



8. Beulah Church, Decatur



9. First Church, Terry

presented Sunday School perfect attendance pins to (bottom row) Laverne Chaney - 34 yrs.; Barbara J. Harrison - 29 yrs.; Makayla (B.B.) Williams - 1 yr.; Elton Bryan - 18 yrs.; Billy E. Williams - 1 yr.; (top row) Neal Motley - 42 yrs.; Will Motley - 34 years

their Children's Summer Fun Camp for children in the 1st - 6th grade, conducted by the church's Joyful Noise Children's Choir. A total of 96 children and adult leaders attended the Summer Fun Camp on July 27-31 at the Woodmen of the World Camp outside of Hattiesburg. Shown are the participants.

## REVIVALS AND HOMECOMINGS

1. Topisaw Church, Bogue Chitto: Homecoming, Oct. 30; worship, 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon singing; Jim Futral, speaker.

2. Ruth Church, Ruth: 75th anniversary and homecoming, Oct. 30; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch; Jared Busby, pastor.

3. Terry's Creek Church, Magnolia: Homecoming, Oct. 30; 9:45 a.m., followed by noon lunch and afternoon service; David Millican, speaker.

4. Eastview Church, Laurel: Revival, Nov. 6 - 9; Sun., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon., 11:30 a.m. lunch and 7 p.m.; Tues. - Wed., 7 p.m.; T.J. Jennings, speaker.

5. First Church, Belzoni: Revival, Nov. 6 - 9; Phil Glisson, speaker; R.L. and Beth Sigrest, music; George C. Johnson, pastor.

6. Furrs Church, Pontotoc: Homecoming

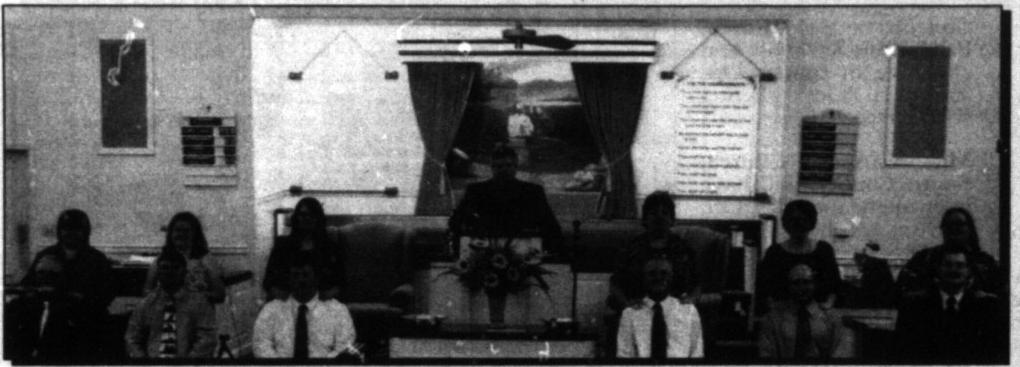
Nov. 6; special music, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Furrs Trio, music; Kevin Wallace, speaker; Steve Cohea, pastor.

7. Harmony Church, Quitman: Homecoming, Nov. 6; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Norman Robinson, speaker.

8. Sandersville Church, Sandersville: Bible conference, Nov. 5 - 9; Sat., pre conference gospel sing with Phil Willis, Sons of the Father, and Endless Praise, 6 p.m.; Sun., 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. nightly thru Wed.; Junior Hill, Tommy Green, Emir Caner, Ted Taylor, Perry Robbins "Airhead" Children's Ministry, speakers; Hank Hough, Kingdom Dog Ministries, Wed., 6:30 p.m.; for more information, call (601) 428-7845.

9. Immanuel Church, Greenwood: Revival, Nov. 6 - 9; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 6:30 p.m.; Greg Spencer, speaker.

## JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. Second Church, Kosciusko



5. Richmond Church, Tupelo



6. Swain ordination



7. Moseley ordination



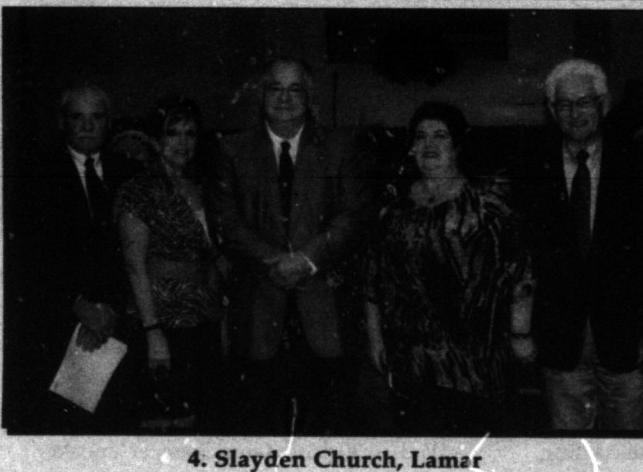
8. New Liberty Church, Branch



2. Oak Grove Church, Smith County



3. Trinity Church, Monroe County



4. Slayden Church, Lamar

1. **Second Church, Kosciusko**, ordained Tommy Moody, Kevin Rhodes, Jason Engle, J.C. Tyler, Chuck Sisson, and Hugh Ballard as deacons Oct. 9. Shown are the men and their wives along with pastor Donald Self.

2. **Oak Grove Church, Smith County**, ordained Steve Warren, Jeremy Little, Alan Miller, and Steve Howell as deacons Sept. 11. Shown are pastor John Barnes III, the four new deacons, and Paul M. King.

3. Carleigh Goode, Hannah McNeese, Ceira Stanley, and Chance McNeese of **Trinity Church, Monroe County**, are shown with some of the items they collected for the Gulf Coast Ministry, Gulfport, for Christmas in August.

4. **Slayden Church, Lamar**, ordained two men as deacons recently. Shown are Arnold Grisham, Deanie Grisham, guest speaker Lee Castle, Ruth Hill, and J.T. Hill.

5. **Richmond Church, Tupelo**, held a note burning celebrating the payoff of a new building. Shown are the pastor and children who had just returned from summer camp.

6. **Harmony Church, Quitman**, ordained Zack Swain as deacon Oct. 16. Shown are pastor Norman Robinson, Swain, Larrian Swain, and Doug Griffin.

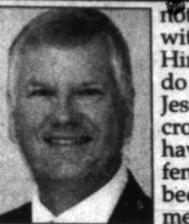
7. **Border Springs Church, Caledonia**, licensed Joe Moseley to the gospel ministry Oct. 2. Shown are John Dodson, Moseley, and pastor David Westmoreland.

8. **New Liberty Church, Branch**, held a baby dedication Oct. 9. Pastor Paul Smith presented each baby with a Bible. Shown are the participants.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS OCTOBER 30, 2011

### BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE Satisfaction Found

John 6: 5-13, 35-40



By Huey Dedmon

**Jesus Provides**  
**John 6: 5-13**  
One thing that we as human beings are guilty of is putting limits on God. Because we are limited, we often try to bring God down to our level. I believe this is an attempt to understand God. This story is a clear reminder that we will never be able to completely understand God. There is no limit to what God can do. Taking the boy's fish and loaves, and feeding 5,000 or more people is beyond our understanding, but because we are made in God's image it is not beyond our ability to believe it happened. We should also be reminded that no matter how little we think we have to offer God, He can take it and do miraculous things with it. The problem is

not what God can do with what we offer to Him, the problem is we do not offer it to God. Jesus stood before the crowd and he could have sent them away to feed for themselves, but because He wants to meet all of our physical and spiritual needs, He performed this great miracle. While we focus on the miracle of the feeding we miss the true miracle. This story is not as much about Jesus feeding the people, as it is about Him being the provision for the salvation of all who choose to believe in Him. The twelve left over baskets should remind us that there is plenty of Jesus for everyone. There is no limit to His provision for us.

**Jesus Satisfies**  
**John 6:35-36**

John continues our story with the people following Jesus to the other side of the sea, to Capernaum. He told them that they were not looking for the right job, have a good insurance policy, attend the right

church, do the right things, etc.... we have security in life. The truth is none of those things can really provide us security. Those things are temporal and will not last. It seems we refuse to face the fact that life will go on beyond our time on Earth. Temporal things can only provide temporal security. True security for all of life can only be found in Jesus. The amazing thing about God is that He desires for us to have eternal security. We can have security now and security beyond the grave. We can live confident that our salvation is secure and eternal.

**Jesus Secures**  
**John 6: 37-40**

In these verses Jesus makes a promise to anyone who comes to Him. He promises to never cast them out and to raise them on the last day. In our world today we are obsessed with the idea of security. We believe that if we have enough money saved, have the right job, have a good insurance policy, attend the right

Dedmon is associate pastor for education and outreach, Brandon Church, Brandon.

### EXPLORE THE BIBLE Does Your Life Please God?

ROMANS 12:1-16-16:27



By Marion D. Duncan

The next five lessons emphasize that Christians should live according to the gospel. The first of these lessons is examples of sacrificial living that please God from Romans 12.

"Brothers, I call upon you, by the mercies of God to present your bodies to Him, a living, consecrated sacrifice, well-pleasing to God — for that is the only kind of worship which is truly spiritual. And do not shape your lives to meet the fleeting fashions of this world; but be transformed from it, by the renewal of your mind, until the very essence of your being is altered, so that, in your own life, you may prove that the will of God is good and well-pleasing and perfect." (The Letter to the Romans, William Barclay)

I beseech you (KJV) is a

without it, the church will not function as God intended it would. For this reason, first, we should know ourselves and honestly identify the gift(s) God has given us. Secondly, we need to accept ourselves and willingly use our gift in His church. Third, whatever gift a man has is a personal, individual gift given by God and is not to be envied nor cause pride.

The first gift addressed by Paul is prophecy. In the New Testament, prophecy has to do with forth telling the word of God. The prophet is one who can announce or proclaim the Christian message with the authority of one who knows it. (Barclay)

The second gift is service — the practical application of God's word in daily life. All of us can show the love of Christ in deeds of service to our fellow man without standing forth in public.

The third is teaching — interpretation of the truth. This may be a failure in the modern

church because we invite people to come and join the fellowship without teaching them what Christianity means.

The fourth gift is exhortation — the main element of which is encouragement. The exhorter works like the poker beside the fireplace — stirs up the consciences of God's people so that truth is worked out in down-to-earth living. (Exploring Romans, John Phillips)

Fifth in the list is the gift of giving — sharing simply and generously. Christian giving and sharing is in simple kindness which delights in the pleasure of giving for giving's sake. (Barclay)

The sixth gift is leading or guiding carried out with zeal. One of the most difficult problems in the church today is finding leadership for all the departments of work. There seems to be fewer people with a sense of service and responsibility. The church needs men and women who will lead with zeal in their hearts.

The last gift Paul chooses is that of mercy. There are those who have a special gift of showing God's mercy. by

going after those who are hurting and showing them the kindness of God. The Good Samaritan is an example of mercy characterized by a cheerful heart. "A cheerful heart is good medicine..." (Proverbs 17:22 NIV)

Love must be genuine expressed in hatred of evil and love for good. Be devoted to one another considering others before thinking of self. Keep your spiritual fervor in serving the Lord. Rejoice in hope, the best is yet to come. Meet trials with triumphant fortitude. Be persistent and faithful in prayer. Share what you have with those in need. Practice hospitality.

Wish well for those who harm you and do not curse them. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud or conceited. Be careful to do what is right. Do not take revenge; vengeance belongs to the Lord. Love uses good to defeat evil.

Duncan is a member and pastor's wife from First Church, Macoupin.

### Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

THE BAPTIST  
*Record*

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number. Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital prints are not reproducible. Digital photos may be submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lit. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building-, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mrbcb.org.

# Charitable giving deduction on Senate's chopping block

WASHINGTON (BP) — The current tax deduction for charitable giving is under attack, and the services provided by churches and other institutions could suffer, U.S. senators were warned on Oct. 18.

"Tax reform options being discussed today are options that target charitable giving concocted by those who, hungry for more tax dollars to finance reckless government spending, are now casting their sights on the already depleted resources of charities and churches," Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said at a hearing by the Senate Finance Committee.

Russell Moore, dean of the school of theology at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., gave a brief statement and said the discussion cannot be boiled down solely to economics. Urging the senators not to change the charitable tax deduction, Moore said giving to charities "teaches and shows that there are things more important than simply the abundance of our possessions."

"We're not simply economic units," Moore said.

The committee heard testimony on a proposal by U.S. President Barack Obama that



**MISSISSIPPIAN TESTIFIES** — Biloxi native Russell D. Moore, dean of the school of theology at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., was one of several panelists who told a U.S. Senate Committee on Oct. 18 that the current tax deduction code for charitable giving is needed. (BP photo)

would ultimately limit charitable deductions. A prominent research organization has estimated the projected 28% cap on itemized deductions could cause a six billion dollar drop in charitable giving, Hatch said.

Some witnesses expressed their fear that non-profits, charities, and churches will suffer

during this time of economic crisis if the incentive to give money is suppressed.

Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., committee chairman, noted one-third of taxpayers itemized deductions last year, and 86% claimed charitable deductions.

Higher income families tend to donate to medical facilities, while lower income families contribute often to religious establishments and basic needs charities, Baucus said in his opening statement.

Hatch said an alteration in the current tax code could cause donations to decrease and significantly damage the non-profits' ability to continue serving the community. "Charitable donations are the lifeblood of charities, and the last thing Congress should do is interrupt the blood supply."

Frank Sammartino, assistant director for tax analysis at the federal Congressional Budget Office (CBO), presented the committee with options for revising the tax handling of charitable contributions. The CBO, he said, categorized 11 possible alternatives into four groups:

- Retaining the current tax deduction for itemizers but adding a floor or minimum level.

- Allowing all taxpayers to claim the deduction, with or without a floor.

- Replacing the deduction with a nonrefundable credit for all taxpayers, equal to 25% of a taxpayer's charitable donations, with or without a floor.

- Replacing the deduction with a nonrefundable credit for all taxpayers, equal to 15 percent of a taxpayer's charitable donations, with or without a floor.

Expressing his opposition to changing the law, Hatch said the goal is not to reward some donors more than others or allow the federal government to experiment by converting the deduction into a tax credit.

"It's about the charity. It's about directing sufficient funds to charities so that they can carry forward the good work our society so desperately needs them to perform."

## JUST FOR THE RECORD

1. The Pearl River Association Disaster Relief Ministry left Monday Aug. 29, with Director of Missions Carl Myers, for Washingtonville, N.Y. They started preparing meals for the Red Cross Wednesday morning Aug. 31 until Sept. 9, and while there prepared over 17,000 meals for the Red Cross to deliver to the flood victims of Hurricane Irene. Six local Churches sent members. They are Carl Myers and Bobby Strahan from First Church, Poplarville; Betty Lundy, Jerry and Elaine Cuevas, Bea Bond, and James Carlisle from Juniper Grove Church; Rick Kohnke and Gene and Dymple Johnson from First Church, Lumberton; Barbara Ferguson from Union Church; Wordy Carroll from Steep Hollow Church; and George Surman from McHenry Church.



1. Pearl River Association



2. Lindsey recognition

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In Concert

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**At First Assembly Meridian**  
\*Marshall was formerly with the  
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The Bible Bookstore, Meridian MS  
First Assembly (By Marvin's) in Meridian, MS

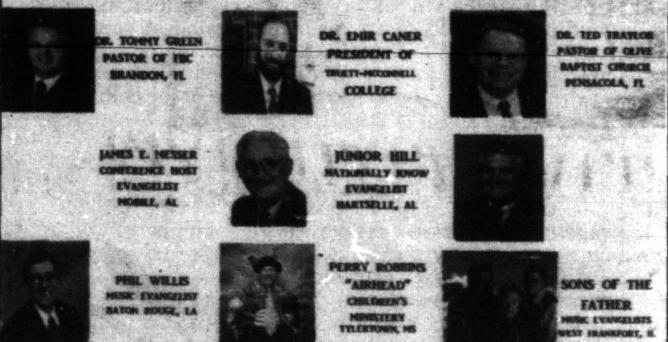
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